

CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

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SISTER CITIES ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEETING

City Council Committee Room
July 9, 1996 - 2:00 p.m.
AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Introductions
- III. Background Information
 - A. **Resolution 91-240** - Current Policies Relating to Sister Cities
 - B. **MM -40** - Sister City Annual Report 1995
- IV. Mission of Task Force
 - A. **Resolution 96-166, CD-1** - Establishing Sister Cities Advisory Task Force
- V. Organization of Task Force
 - A. **Officers**
 1. Co-Chairs: Councilmember Rene Mansho/Lynette Char
 2. Vice Chair:
 - B. **Committee Chairs**
 1. Policy - Review current policies, formulate recommendations
 2. Economic Development - Identify ways to expand business and relationships
 3. Cultural - Identify and improve educational, cultural and philosophical relationships
 4. Intergovernmental - Identify governmental services exchange programs
 - C. **Adoption of Rules** - Parliamentary Procedures
 - D. **Schedule of Meetings** (monthly)
- VI. Related Legislation
 - A. **Resolution 96-142, CD-1**, Sister Cities Electronic Exchange Advisory Committee
 - B. **Resolution 96-179, CD-1**, Sister Cities Economic Development Conference
- VII. Announcements
- VIII. Adjournment



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CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

**INTERGOVERNMENTAL
RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Rene Mansho, Chair
Mufi Hannemann, Vice-Chair
John Henry Felix, Member
Andy Mirikitani, Member
Jon Yoshimura, Member

N O T I C E

**THERE SHALL BE A MEETING OF THE
SISTER CITY ADVISORY TASK FORCE**

DATE: TUESDAY, JULY 9, 1996

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PLACE: COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR
HONOLULU HALE

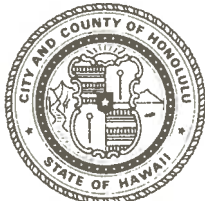
CHAIR: COUNCILMEMBER RENE MANSHO

PURPOSE: To discuss revitalization of Honolulu's sister cities
program and to bolster national and foreign
technological, economic, and cultural exchanges which
will mutually benefit Honolulu and her sister cities.

Note: The public is invited to attend this task force meeting
for information. Oral testimony will not be accepted.

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Any disabled person requiring special assistance should
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CITY COUNCIL

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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065 / TELEPHONE 547-7000

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SISTER CITIES ADVISORY TASK FORCE MEETING COUNCIL COMMITTEE ROOM JULY 9, 1996 MINUTES

I. Meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Councilmember Rene Mansho

II. Introductions

A. Committee Members in Attendance:

Rene Mansho, Councilmember
Hattie Dixon, Hawaii Visitor's Bureau
Dr. Peter Kessinger, HCC
Robert Mathews, ICICX
Dr. Galen Fox, DBEDT
Mr. Paul Rehob, Vietnamese-Am. Chamber
Bill Brophy, Hispanic Chamber
Ronald Ushijima, Japanese Chamber
Colin McDonald, Consular Corps
Audrey Keesing, N.O.W.

Lynette Char, Mayor's Office
Wes Fong, Chinese Chamber
Valerie Evans, HCC
Dr. Glenn Miyataki, JAIMS
Col. Joe Chesley, CINCPAC
Omar Rivera, Hispanic Chamber
Karen Knudsen, East-West Center
Gen. Herbert Wolff, Consular Corps
Kimo Keawe, Aloha Festivals

B. Others in Attendance:

Michelle Kidani, Councilmember Mansho Staff
Scott Bell, Councilmember Hanneman Staff

C. Co-chair Mansho extended her appreciation to the Mayor for his support of the sister cities programs which had not been a priority of the previous administration. She also thanked the members of the committee for their willingness to serve as the benefits through sister cities relationships can be very rewarding for Honolulu economically as well as culturally.

D. Co-chair Char stated that she was pleased Councilmember Mansho initiated the Resolution to establish this task force as it was long overdue and looks forward to working together to implement programs to initiate stronger sister city ties.

III. Background Information

A. Handouts:

1. **Resolution 91-240** - Current guidelines used by Council in establishing sister cities for Honolulu. Review and revise, if necessary, current guidelines.

2. **Mayor's Message 40** - Sister City Annual Report - 1995. Mayor led two delegations on sister cities visits to the Philippines and Taiwan. Some of the more active relationships include Hiroshima, where Councilmember Mansho represented the Mayor as the only U.S. official to observe the commemorative events of the bombing of Hiroshima and the recent Hiroshima Festival; Dragon Boat races from Kaosiung, Taiwan.

IV. Mission

A. **Resolution 96-166, CD-1**, Establishing Sister Cities Advisory Task Force to assist Council in achieving the following objectives:

1. Maintaining active relationships with sister cities
2. Fostering education, mutual understanding, and cultural appreciation of sister cities
3. Facilitate technological, economic, cultural exchanges, exhibitions and trade missions that are mutually beneficial
4. Serving as a conduit for aid, comfort and assistance in time of natural disasters and other emergency need
5. Recommending new sister city ties

V. Organization of Task Force

A. Officers

1. Co-chairs are Councilmember Rene Mansho and Lynette Char
2. Vice-chairs - Kimo Keawe and Audrey Keesing volunteered

B. Committee Chairs

1. Policy - Chair-General Wolff; members-Col. Chelsey,
2. Economic Development - Chair-Paul Rebob; members-HCC, JCC, HVB, DBEDT
3. Cultural - Chair (no volunteers); members-JAIMS, East-West Center
4. Intergovernmental Committee will be merged with Policy.

C. Comments from Members:

1. General Wolff stated that Honolulu and her 15 sister cities represent approximately 40 million people which would account for significant economic impacts and we should welcome sister cities with larger populations and not necessarily those whose populations aligns with Honolulu's. How do we get the relationships to work? Can we get our sister cities together to sit down and talk with us? Should we divide our sister cities by population size to determine who we can work with each sister city? We also need to be politically aware.
2. Paul Rebob felt a "needs assessment" and it would be useful to have all the sister cities representatives in one place at one time. He suggested they be invited to participate in the Japan-American Conference of Mayors in Honolulu in 1997.

3. Ron Ushijima is involved in the planning of the Japan-American Conference of Mayors.
4. Robert Mathews stated that Councilmember Mansho has introduced Resolution 96-179 which requests a sister cities conference in Honolulu (see handout).
5. Karen Knudsen requested a sample criteria from other cities in order that we can review it for Honolulu's use. (Lynette Char will follow up on this request and also ask the National Sister Cities organization for information.)
6. It was noted by Councilmember Mansho that the term "sister city" is a copyright. Lynette Char indicated that the term "sister city" can only be used by members of the National Organization and we are not members. Dues are based on population of city.
7. Omar Rivera noted that some of the activity dates are quite old and we should investigate why we haven't had contact with our sister cities. Are we limited to only 15 sister cities? (The current guidelines in Resolution 91-240 do not limit the total number of sister cities, but it does limit 4 per country.)
8. Paul Rebob asked if there was a summary of what has occurred with sister cities over the last several years. Maybe each Chamber has records of their own activities and can share them with the members.
9. Galen Fox stated there needs to be some type of quality control measurement which determines how sister city relationships are going to pay off economically for Honolulu. If there is not much prospect, then we should not put time and effort into bringing countries into a relationship. E.g., Tokyo would be difficult, but we would get a lot more out of Hiroshima.
10. Councilmember Mansho expressed her gratefulness to the Governor and Dr. Naya for allowing the State's participation. Only recently did she become aware that the State also has sister state relationships and maybe we can avoid duplication of efforts if we can coordinate and pool resources together.
11. General Wolff indicated that there are other organizations (e.g. Rotary Clubs, Lions Clubs, Kiwanis Clubs) which have very good relationships with cities such as Tokyo and we may want to take advantage of these organizations to help us.
12. Audrey Keesing indicated she is well acquainted with working with the federal government and her internet can access 189 countries worldwide with organizations interested in working on women's issues. She suggested that the sister cities conference be held at the same time as the NOW conference planned for 1998 in Honolulu.

13. Valerie Evans stated that the University of Hawaii has a sister relationship with other universities in other countries also.
14. Councilmember Mansho stated that Lynette Char will write to each of our sister cities to let them know we are still here and are they still interested in continuing our relationship. The names on the letterhead will also reflect Mayor Harris and General Wolff as the Honorary Chairs while she and Lynette Char will maintain the operations.
15. Omar Rivera indicated that we should have focus areas set to meet our mission.
16. Wes Fong stated that sister city relationships with some countries may not necessarily benefit Honolulu, e.g., China wants to do business in America, but doesn't want businesses here to solicit Chinese business.

D. Without objection, parliamentary procedures were adopted as rules for this task force.

E. Monthly meetings will be scheduled at the end of each meeting.

VI. Announcements

A. Next meeting is scheduled for August 6th, 3:00 p.m., Mayor's Conference Room.

V. Meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A SISTER CITY ADVISORY TASK FORCE.

WHEREAS, the sister city program was established to foster friendship and understanding among municipal governments, as well as to bolster national and foreign policy through the development of mutual trust and goodwill among the peoples of the world; and

WHEREAS, Honolulu's sister city program began with the establishment of formal ties with Hiroshima, Japan, on May 19, 1959; and

WHEREAS, over its 37-year lifetime, Honolulu's sister city program has grown to encompass 15 cities worldwide; and

WHEREAS, although Honolulu's affiliation with certain sister cities has been active, meaningful and worthwhile, the program, in general, lacks focus and interest with little communication and activity between Honolulu and many of her sister cities; and

WHEREAS, in today's world of instantaneous global linkages which make educational, cultural, technological, and economic exchanges feasible between Honolulu and all of her sister cities, it is important that the goals of the sister city program of the City and County of Honolulu be vigorously pursued; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that a Sister City Task Force be established to assist the Council Committee on Intergovernmental Relations in achieving the following objectives:

- 1) Maintaining active relationships between the City and County of Honolulu and all of her sister cities;
- 2) Fostering education, mutual understanding, and cultural appreciation between Honolulu and all of her sister cities;
- 3) Facilitating technological, economic, cultural exchanges, exhibitions and trade missions that are mutually beneficial to the residents of the County of Honolulu and the peoples of all of her sister cities;
- 4) Serving as a conduit for aid, comfort and assistance in time of natural disasters and other emergency need between Honolulu and sister cities; and

RESOLUTION

- 5) Recommending the formation of new sister city ties with other cities pursuant to the guidelines established in Resolution 91-240;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Sister City Task Force, established herein, be chaired by the following persons: Honorary Co-Chairs: Mayor, City and County of Honolulu, and Dean of the Consular Corps of Hawaii; and Co-Chairs: Chair, Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, Honolulu City Council, and Executive Assistant and Protocol Officer, Office of the Mayor, City and County of Honolulu; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the membership of the Sister City Task Force include representatives from the following organizations: Consular Corps of Hawaii; U.S. Commander in Chief of the Pacific (CINCPAC); ethnic community organizations; Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu; ethnic chambers of commerce; Hawaii State Senate; Hawaii State House of Representatives; Hawaii Visitors Bureau; institutions of education; State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; and International Community Interconnected Computing Exchange (ICICX); and

RESOLUTION

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; the Dean of Consular Corps of Hawaii; the Executive Assistant and Protocol Officer, City and County of Honolulu; CINCPAC; the Consular Corps of Hawaii; the heads of the ethnic community organizations; the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu; the presidents of the ethnic chambers of commerce; the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hawaii State Legislature; the President of the Hawaii Visitors Bureau; the presidents of institutions of education; the Director of the State Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; and ICICX.

INTRODUCED BY:

Rene Mansho

Councilmembers

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

May 30, 1996

Honolulu, Hawaii

(OCS/061896/pn)

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CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

I hereby certify that the foregoing RESOLUTION was adopted by the COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU on the date and by the vote indicated to the right.

ATTEST:

Genevieve G. Wong
GENEVIEVE G. WONG
CITY CLERK

John DeSoto
JOHN DeSOTO
CHAIR AND PRESIDING OFFICER

Dated 6/26/96

ADOPTED MEETING HELD			
6/26/96			
	AYE	NO	A/E
BAINUM			
FELIX			
HANNEMANN			
HOLMES			
KIM			
MANSHO			
MIRIKITANI			
YOSHIMURA			
DeSOTO			
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Reference

Report No. IGR-327

Resolution No.

96-166
CD1